IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend claims 1-4, 7, 8, 13-16, 18, 19, 21-23, 29, 31 and 32 and cancel claims 5, 6, 9-12, 16, 25-28 and 32 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter disclosed therein. The subject matter of these cancelled claims is contained in one or more of the claims which remain. Accordingly, the cancellation of these claims is not related to the patentability of the invention, but rather to reduce the apparent redundancy of the claims.

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The device as in claim 13 ~~for scheduling transmissions in an interference limited network,~~ wherein the ~~device~~ prioritization unit is further adapted to[[:]]

~~send transmission test signals to one or more terminal units; and~~

prioritize transmission request signals from ~~the one or more~~ the terminal units based on achievable data rates~~, each rate associated with one of the test signals~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 1 wherein the ~~device~~ prioritization unit is further adapted to assign a highest priority to a transmission request signal associated with a highest achievable data rate.

3. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 2 wherein the ~~device~~ authorization unit is further adapted to authorize a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ associated with the highest achievable data rate to send a transmission.

4. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 1 wherein the ~~device~~ authorization unit is further adapted to authorize a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ associated with a prioritized transmission request signal to send a transmission.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 1, wherein the ~~device~~ prioritization unit is further adapted to periodically poll a data rate associated with a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ within the network.

8. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 7 wherein the ~~device~~ prioritization unit is further adapted to adjust a priority associated with the terminal unit based on the polled data rate.

9. – 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A device for scheduling transmissions in an interference-limited network~~, wherein the device is adapted to~~ comprising:

a prioritization unit adapted to send a transmission test ~~signals~~ signal to ~~one or more~~ terminal units[[;]], and prioritize [[the]] each transmission test ~~signals~~ signal based on achievable data rates, each ~~rate associated with one of the test signals~~ terminal associated with an achievable data rate; and

an authorization unit adapted to authorize transmissions to the terminal units based on the priority of the test signals.

14. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 13, wherein the ~~device~~ prioritization unit is further adapted to assign a highest priority to a transmission test signal associated with a highest achievable data rate.

15. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 14 wherein the ~~device is further~~ authorization unit is further adapted to authorize a transmission to a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ associated with the highest achievable data rate.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The device as in claim 13 wherein the device comprises a bandwidth allocation unit.

18. (Currently Amended) The device as in claim 13 wherein the device further comprises a multiplexer.

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method ~~for scheduling transmissions in an interference limited network~~ as in claim 29 further comprising:

~~sending transmission test signals to one or more terminal units; and~~

prioritizing transmission request signals from ~~the one or more~~ the terminal units based on achievable data rates~~, each rate associated with one of the test signals~~.

20. (Original) The method as in claim 19 further comprising assigning a highest priority to a transmission request signal associated with a highest achievable data rate.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 20 further comprising authorizing a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ associated with the highest achievable data rate to send a transmission.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 19 further comprising authorizing a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ associated with a prioritized transmission request signal to send a transmission.

23. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 19 further comprising periodically polling a data rate associated with a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ within the network.

24. (Original) The method as in claim 23 further comprising adjusting a priority associated with the terminal unit based on the polled data rate.

25. – 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method for scheduling transmissions in an interference-limited network comprising:

sending a transmission test ~~signals~~ signal to ~~one or more~~ terminal units;

[[and]]

prioritizing [[the]] each transmission test ~~signals~~ signal based on achievable data rates, each ~~rate associated with one of the test signals~~ terminal unit associated with an achievable data rate; and

authorizing transmissions to terminal units based on the priority of the transmission test signals.

30. (Original) The method as in claim 29 further comprising assigning a highest priority to a transmission test signal associated with a highest achievable data rate.

31. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 30 further comprising authorizing a transmission to a terminal unit~~, of the one or more terminal units,~~ associated with the highest achievable data rate.

32. (Cancelled)